

REMARKS

Claims 11-14 are currently pending in the present application.

At the outset, Applicants and their undersigned representative would like to thank the Examiner for his helpfulness and courtesy during several recent telephone conversations with Applicants' and their representatives, including the undersigned. During the telephone conversations with the Examiner, the allegedly interfering subject matter between the present application and U.S. Patent No. 6,660,344 of Lub ("Lub") was discussed. During a telephone conversation between the Examiner and the undersigned on June 21, 2005, the lack of claims in Lub directed to methods and Applicants' proposed amendments, as set forth herein, were discussed. The Examiner indicated that such method claims would likely receive his favorable consideration.

Applicants have canceled claims 1-10 and have added new claims 11-14. New claims 11-14 are supported throughout the specification and in the previously pending claims, particularly claims 5 and 9. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments made herein. Furthermore, no additional claims fees are necessitated by the amendments made herein. A complete listing of all claims ever presented in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1) is contained herein. Accordingly, entry of the amendments made herein is proper and respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner suggests that potentially interfering subject matter may have existed between the previously pending claims of the present application and the claims of the Lub patent. As discussed with the Examiner and as discussed below, the Lub reference does not claim methods in accordance with Applicants' claimed methods, as provided in this Amendment. The Lub patent contains twelve claims. Claims 1-3 are directed to photo-polymerizable liquid crystalline dioxetane compounds. Claims 4-5 and 11 are directed to compositions containing such dioxetane compounds. Claims 6-10 and 11 are directed to liquid crystalline polymer products and devices containing such compounds and compositions. Thus, no methods are claimed.

New claims 11-14 are directed to methods of producing liquid crystalline films, wherein the methods comprise forming a layer of a polymerizable liquid crystalline composition

on an alignable film in an aligned liquid crystal orientation, and polymerizing the layer such that the aligned orientation is fixed. Such subject matter is not claimed in Lub.

All other previously applied rejections based upon prior art have been withdrawn by the Examiner, as indicated in the Office Action.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 11-14 of the present application are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and known to Applicants. Furthermore, claims 11-14 of the present application do not constitute interfering subject matter with the Lub patent. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

If, after entry and consideration of this Amendment, the Examiner does not agree with Applicants, Applicants' undersigned representative respectfully requests that the Examiner telephone him to discuss any further suggested amendments which would place the instant application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Date)

By: _____

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